

J.W. Burke, Jr.
903 W. Grace St. #2
Richmond, Va. 23220
December 29, 1975

Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

I am sending you some Xeroxed copies of the photograph I mentioned before when I wrote. I don't know if you've seen Ken Smith or the picture, but at least this Xerox copy will give you an idea. If you are indeed interested in getting a copy from me, let me know and I will try to get it done. It would involve obtaining the original from the owner, and giving it to my photo man to make the copy at his convenience. Truthfully, I don't think there would be much difficulty.

The picture was probably taken by Dallas cameraman Francis Gothard, and in substantiation of this the back of the original bears the imprint "Francis Studios". Gothard or someone working for him was standing across from the Adolphus Tower Building on Main Street, I believe it is the 1400 block, just past Akard Street and just before Field Street. This is approximately eight blocks from Dealey Plaza and two blocks from Ruby's Carousel Club. The man in the hat is, I am still convinced, Jack Ruby, or a dead ringer for him. I do not know the identity of the bald-headed man, although he somewhat resembles Cuban exile leader Dr. Manuel Antonio "Tony" de Varona. I can offer no reasonable explanation of William Greer's open limousine door. Perhaps he can. He should be asked.

I don't know if you've had time to read Hugh C. McDonald's new book in which he purports to have finally located JFK's

"real" assassin, a story which I rejected as having too many inconsistencies as well as being just plain unbelievable. But it does make me wonder if McDonald made it all up to make a buck (though his credentials seem pretty good), or if he was duped. I'm interested in your views on this if you're familiar with the story.

Also, I would like sometime to discuss with you how you go about publishing and printing your books, as I have been toying (rather vaguely at this point, I'm afraid) with the notion of writing an assassination book myself. My concern would not be making money, but rather not losing any, and I would like to find out if this is likely or even possible.

In the meantime, please send me a copy of Whitewash I and a copy of Whitewash III (Photographic Whitewash). Enclosed is a money order for \$12.50, hoping that is the right amount. If it isn't too much trouble for you, could you autograph the books? That would be nice. Lastly, how much is Post Mortem? I enjoyed the writeup in the Washington Post.

Sincerely,

J.W. Bonke Jr

Thanks for your 12/29 and the enclosed xeroxes. If it represents no great trouble or cost for you I'd appreciate a set of the pictures as a matter of record, with the identification added to the back. There are other pictures in which a man who looks like Ruby appears. I am inclined not to believe this is him but from the picture perhaps it will be clearer than the xerox.

McDonald's book is 100% fabrication. I've done much work on it. Motive is another matter. So much is being spent on it that it has to have fantastic sale to recover just the costs. Thanks and best, HW 12/31/75